

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 19, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 3, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1563**

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**Introduced by Senator Escutia**  
***(Coauthor: Senator Soto)***

February 23, 2006

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An act to amend Section 60641 of, and to add Sections 78213.5 ~~and 78213.7~~, 78213.7, *and* 78213.8 to, the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1563, as amended, Escutia. Community colleges: Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes those districts to provide instruction to students at community college campuses.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to, among other things, the rates at which students who enroll in community colleges as freshmen return for a second year of college. The bill would express legislative intent to enact legislation to establish a Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program for the purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for college level English and mathematics at the end of

grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate the skills of these pupils to a level ~~expected of first-time community college freshman students~~ *commensurate with college-level English and mathematics.*

The bill would establish the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program, until January 1, 2012, for the purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their readiness for college level English and mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate their skills to a level expected of first-time community college freshman students. The bill would require the program to be administered by the ~~California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS), which the bill would establish~~ *Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.*

The bill would establish ~~Cal-PASS~~ *the California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS)* as an independent research body whose work is aimed at improving student transition from one educational segment to the next and ensuring that students are prepared to succeed at each level of education. The bill would require the board of governors to oversee the efforts of Cal-PASS through annual evaluations of the finances, expenditures, and activities of Cal-PASS.

The bill would provide that up to 25 community colleges, along with their feeder high schools, shall be eligible to participate in the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program. The bill would require ~~Cal-PASS~~ *the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges* to select the participating community colleges and high schools from ~~institutions~~ *districts* applying to the program and agreeing to meet the requirements established for participation in the program. The bill would require ~~Cal-PASS to make these selections in accordance with procedures and criteria it develops and adopts, but would also require Cal-PASS~~ *the chancellor*, in making these selections, to give priority to colleges and schools from districts that are currently working with, or utilizing, Cal-PASS data. The bill would specify requirements to be met by participating community colleges and high schools.

The bill would require ~~Cal-PASS to establish and oversee the work of 6 regional standards councils and a statewide standards council. The bill would specify the duties and responsibilities of these standards councils.~~

The bill would require ~~Cal-PASS~~ *the board of governors*, to the extent that funding is provided specifically for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or another statute, to provide a stipend to each participating community college and high school. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature that this stipend, in conjunction with base funding received by the participating institutions, shall be adequate to cover all costs incurred by those institutions *under the program*.

*The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, from funds provided in the annual Budget Act for this purpose, to contract with a community college district to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The bill would require this district to submit a final evaluation report to the Legislature and the Governor on or before June 30, 2011. The bill would require the Office of the Legislative Analyst to review the final report, and, on or before August 31, 2011, to make recommendations regarding whether the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program should be continued, modified, expanded, or discontinued.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) In California and throughout the nation, an increasing
- 4 number of jobs require some education beyond high school to
- 5 meet the challenges of a growing, knowledge-based global
- 6 economy. Of the students who seek a postsecondary education in
- 7 California, 62 percent attend a community college. Current data
- 8 show that ~~most~~ *many* of these students do not complete a degree,
- 9 certificate, or transfer program.
- 10 ~~(2) Retention rates are poor: in 2002, only 48 percent of~~
- 11 ~~community college freshmen returned for a second year of~~
- 12 ~~college.~~
- 13 ~~(3) Completion rates in the California Community Colleges~~
- 14 ~~are fourth from the bottom in the country as measured by the~~
- 15 ~~National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.~~
- 16 (4)

1 (2) More than 50 percent of incoming students of the  
2 California Community Colleges require remediation or basic  
3 skills development in order to complete college-level work. This  
4 is a critical factor determining student success in achieving  
5 educational objectives.

6 (3) *There is a need for greater coordination and course*  
7 *articulation between community colleges and high schools to*  
8 *create smooth pathways into, and the successful completion of,*  
9 *community college programs.*

10 ~~(5) A lack of consistent standards, curriculum, and~~  
11 ~~assessments between high schools and community colleges~~  
12 ~~contributes to these problems. It is estimated that there are 495~~  
13 ~~English, mathematics, and English-as-a-second-language~~  
14 ~~placement examinations across California's 109 community~~  
15 ~~colleges. Each community college determines its own definition~~  
16 ~~of "college readiness" despite the mission of the California~~  
17 ~~Community Colleges to prepare students to transfer to the two~~  
18 ~~four-year universities that have statewide standards for college~~  
19 ~~readiness.~~

20 ~~(6)~~  
21 (4) Early assessment is a diagnostic tool and a fundamental  
22 means for improving student preparation for, and success in,  
23 community college. Early assessment must be part of a larger set  
24 of aligned activities, so students may fully benefit from every  
25 step in their educational career.

26 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to enact  
27 legislation to establish a Community College Early Assessment  
28 Pilot Program for the purpose of providing high school pupils  
29 with an indicator of their readiness for college level English and  
30 mathematics at the end of grade 11 and allowing high schools to  
31 work with pupils in grade 12 to elevate the skills of these pupils  
32 to a level ~~expected of first-time community college freshman~~  
33 ~~students~~ *commensurate with college-level English and*  
34 *mathematics.*

35 (c) It is also the intent of the Legislature that this program help  
36 pupils to begin to earn English and mathematics college credit  
37 immediately upon enrollment in a community college.

38 (d) It is also the intent of the Legislature that this program  
39 work, to the extent possible, in coordination with the California  
40 State University's Early Assessment Program.

1 SEC. 2. Section 60641 of the Education Code is amended to  
2 read:

3 60641. (a) The department shall ensure that school districts  
4 comply with each of the following requirements:

5 (1) The achievement test designated pursuant to Section 60642  
6 and the standards-based achievement test provided for in Section  
7 60642.5 are scheduled to be administered to all pupils during the  
8 period prescribed in subdivision (b) of Section 60640.

9 (2) The individual results of each pupil test administered  
10 pursuant to Section 60640 shall be reported, in writing, to the  
11 pupil's parent or guardian. The written report shall include a  
12 clear explanation of the purpose of the test, the pupil's score, and  
13 its intended use by the school district. This subdivision does not  
14 require teachers or other school district personnel to prepare  
15 individualized explanations of each pupil's test score.

16 (3) (A) The individual results of each pupil test administered  
17 pursuant to Section 60640 shall also be reported to the pupil's  
18 school and teachers. The school district shall include the pupil's  
19 test results in his or her pupil records. However, except as  
20 provided in this section, individual pupil test results may only be  
21 released with the permission of either the pupil's parent or  
22 guardian if the pupil is a minor, or the pupil if the pupil has  
23 reached the age of majority or is emancipated.

24 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a pupil or his or her  
25 parent or guardian may authorize the release of individual pupil  
26 results to a postsecondary educational institution for the purpose  
27 of credit, placement, *assessment of college readiness*, or  
28 admission.

29 (4) The districtwide, school-level, and grade-level results of  
30 the STAR Program in each of the grades designated pursuant to  
31 Section 60640, but not the score or relative position of any  
32 individually ascertainable pupil, shall be reported to the  
33 governing board of the school district at a regularly scheduled  
34 meeting, and the countywide, school-level, and grade-level  
35 results for classes and programs under the jurisdiction of the  
36 county office of education shall be similarly reported to the  
37 county board of education at a regularly scheduled meeting.

38 (b) The publisher designated pursuant to Section 60642 and  
39 the publisher of the standards-based achievement tests provided  
40 for in Section 60642.5 shall make the individual pupil, grade,

1 school, school district, and state results available to the  
2 department pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of  
3 Section 60643 by August 8 of each year in which the  
4 achievement test is administered for those schools for which the  
5 last day of test administration, including makeup days, is on or  
6 before June 25. The department shall make the grade, school,  
7 school district, and state results available on the Internet by  
8 August 15 of each year in which the achievement test is  
9 administered for those schools for which the last day of test  
10 administration, including makeup days, is on or before June 25.

11 (c) The department shall take all reasonable steps to ensure  
12 that the results of the test for all pupils who take the test by June  
13 25 are made available on the Internet by August 15, as set forth  
14 in subdivision (b).

15 (d) The department shall ensure that a California Standards  
16 Test that is augmented for the purpose of determining credit,  
17 placement, assessment of college readiness, or admission of a  
18 pupil in a postsecondary educational institution inform a pupil in  
19 grade 11 that he or she may request that the results from that  
20 assessment be released to a postsecondary educational institution.

21 SEC. 3. Section 78213.5 is added to the Education Code, to  
22 read:

23 78213.5. (a) (1) The Community College Early Assessment  
24 Pilot Program is hereby established, until January 1, 2012, for the  
25 purpose of providing high school pupils with an indicator of their  
26 readiness for college level English and mathematics at the end of  
27 grade 11 and allowing high schools to work with pupils in grade  
28 12 to elevate their skills to ~~a level expected of first-time~~  
29 ~~community college freshman students. In that level. The program~~  
30 *shall be administered by the board of governors.*

31 (2) *In order to provide high school pupils with this indicator,*  
32 ~~community colleges a community college~~ participating in the  
33 program shall use, but not necessarily be limited to, test results  
34 released to ~~them that college~~ pursuant to subdivision (d) of  
35 Section 60641. ~~The program shall be administered by the~~  
36 ~~California Partnership for Achieving Student Success~~  
37 ~~(Cal-PASS) established by Section 78213.7.~~

38 ~~(b) The Office of the Legislative Analyst shall evaluate the~~  
39 ~~effectiveness of the program and do both of the following:~~

1 ~~(1) Six months after the second administration of the~~  
2 ~~assessment to grade 11 pupils, submit an interim evaluation~~  
3 ~~report to the Legislature and the Governor.~~

4 ~~(2) By June 30, 2011, submit a final report to the Legislature~~  
5 ~~and the Governor. Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section~~  
6 ~~78213, the California Standards Test and the California~~  
7 ~~Standards Test (CST) as augmented pursuant to Section 60641~~  
8 ~~may be used to provide placement advice to community college~~  
9 ~~students participating in the Community College Early~~  
10 ~~Assessment Pilot Program.~~

11 *(b) As used in this section, “entry college-level” means the*  
12 *content knowledge that a graduating high school pupil is*  
13 *expected to know to succeed upon entering a community college*  
14 *course for credit in English or mathematics. This content*  
15 *knowledge is based on California’s adopted academic content*  
16 *standards in English-language arts and mathematics.*

17 *(c) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges*  
18 *shall select, from community college districts applying to*  
19 *participate in the program, institutions that agree to meet the*  
20 *requirements established for participation in the program. Up to*  
21 *25 community colleges, along with their feeder high schools,*  
22 *shall participate in the Community College Early Assessment*  
23 *Pilot Program. In selecting community colleges and high schools*  
24 *for participation in the program, the chancellor shall give*  
25 *priority to colleges and schools from districts that are currently*  
26 *working with, or utilizing, data from the California Partnership*  
27 *for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS).*

28 *(d) The board of governors, relying on the Academic Senate*  
29 *for California Community Colleges, and in consultation with the*  
30 *California State University, shall accomplish both of the*  
31 *following:*

32 *(1) Evaluate and adopt appropriate standards, for purposes of*  
33 *this pilot program, for college-level English and mathematics*  
34 *courses in alignment with test items pursuant to Section 60641. If*  
35 *the board of governors is not able to adopt these standards by*  
36 *January 1, 2008, then the standards utilized by the California*  
37 *State University shall be used as the default standards for the*  
38 *purposes of this pilot program.*

39 *(2) Determine whether augmentation of the CST is needed to*  
40 *meet Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program*

1 standards. The board of governors shall adopt either the CST or  
2 the version of the CST as augmented by the California State  
3 University as the common test pupils are required to take if they  
4 choose to participate in the Community College Early  
5 Assessment Pilot Program.

6 (e) At a minimum, the following requirements shall be met by  
7 participating community colleges and high schools:

8 (1) Participating community colleges shall agree to designate  
9 the appropriate faculty to work with the Academic Senate for the  
10 California Community Colleges and the board of governors in  
11 developing college-level English and mathematics standards to  
12 be used in this pilot program.

13 (2) Participating high schools shall agree to designate  
14 appropriate representatives to work with the Academic Senate  
15 for the California Community Colleges and the board of  
16 governors in developing college-level English and mathematics  
17 standards to be used in this pilot program.

18 (3) Participating community colleges shall agree to use the  
19 entry college-level English and mathematics standards adopted  
20 by the board of governors as the basis on which to assess  
21 community college readiness.

22 (4) Upon the adoption of entry college-level English and  
23 mathematics standards, participating community colleges shall  
24 map their precollegiate-level courses and transfer-level courses  
25 in English and mathematics to the entry college-level standards  
26 and the elementary and secondary academic content standards in  
27 English language arts and mathematics.

28 (5) Participating high schools and community colleges shall  
29 work together in coordination with the California State  
30 University to develop and implement appropriate grade 12  
31 curriculum.

32 (6) Participating community colleges shall make college  
33 outreach advisors available to participating feeder high schools  
34 to assist students in making decisions that increase their  
35 college-readiness skills and increase the likelihood of pursuing a  
36 postsecondary education.

37 (f) The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall  
38 enter into a contract with Cal-PASS for the completion of both of  
39 the following tasks:



1     (1) *Collection and analysis of the results of the CST or the*  
2 *augmented CST for the purpose of guiding the development of*  
3 *curriculum to be implemented during grade 12 to improve*  
4 *student success in postsecondary education.*

5     (2) *In cooperation with participating high schools, community*  
6 *colleges, and the California State University, the facilitation of*  
7 *the creation and implementation of professional development*  
8 *opportunities to train high school teachers in developing and*  
9 *implementing curriculum aligned to the adopted entry*  
10 *college-level standards. These professional development*  
11 *opportunities shall consist of community college and California*  
12 *State University faculty mentors working directly with grade 11*  
13 *and 12 teachers to ensure alignment between the curriculum and*  
14 *the adopted community college standards.*

15     (g) *Participating community college districts shall work in*  
16 *coordination with California State University and participating*  
17 *high schools to create a system for notifying pupils of their grade*  
18 *11 test results and apprising them of senior-year academic*  
19 *enrichment opportunities. This system shall ensure that all of the*  
20 *following occur:*

21     (1) *Pupils receive notification regarding their community*  
22 *college readiness for college-level English and mathematics for*  
23 *entering students.*

24     (2) *Pupils are informed that this information is only an*  
25 *indicator of their college readiness and has no bearing on their*  
26 *eligibility to attend community college.*

27     (3) *Pupils are reassured that they are eligible to attend*  
28 *community college.*

29     (h) *To the extent that funding is provided specifically for this*  
30 *purpose in the annual Budget Act or in another statute, the board*  
31 *of governors shall provide a stipend to each participating*  
32 *community college and high school. It is the intent of the*  
33 *Legislature that this stipend, in conjunction with base funding*  
34 *received by the participating institutions, shall be adequate to*  
35 *cover all costs incurred by those institutions under the*  
36 *Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.*

37     SEC. 4. Section 78213.7 is added to the Education Code, to  
38 read:

39     78213.7. (a) ~~(1)~~—The California Partnership for Achieving  
40 Student Success (Cal-PASS) is hereby established as an

1 independent research body whose work is aimed at improving  
2 student transition from one educational segment to the next and  
3 ensuring that students are prepared to succeed at each level of  
4 education. The Board of Governors of the California Community  
5 Colleges shall oversee the efforts of Cal-PASS through annual  
6 evaluations of the finances, expenditures, and activities of  
7 Cal-PASS. In order to help facilitate these evaluations, the  
8 Director of Cal-PASS shall submit all of the following in a report  
9 to the board of governors by April 1 of each year:

10 (A)

11 (1) An accounting of all funding for Cal-PASS in the current  
12 fiscal year.

13 (B)

14 (2) A description of major Cal-PASS activities performed in  
15 the current fiscal year.

16 (C)

17 (3) A listing of all institutions that are participating in the  
18 Cal-PASS program through memoranda of understanding or  
19 other formal agreements.

20 (2)

21 (b) Annually, by May 1, the Chancellor of the California  
22 Community Colleges shall forward this report to the Legislature  
23 and the Department of Finance, as well as the assessment of the  
24 board of governors of the effectiveness of Cal-PASS and any  
25 recommendations for future changes to the program's activities,  
26 mission, and funding.

27 ~~(3) As used in this section, "entry associate level" means the~~  
28 ~~content knowledge that a graduating high school pupil is~~  
29 ~~expected to know to succeed upon entering a community college~~  
30 ~~associate level course for credit in English or mathematics. This~~  
31 ~~content knowledge is based on California's adopted academic~~  
32 ~~content standards in English language arts and mathematics.~~

33 ~~(b) Up to 25 community colleges, along with their feeder high~~  
34 ~~schools, shall be eligible to participate in the Community College~~  
35 ~~Early Assessment Pilot Program. Cal-PASS shall select the~~  
36 ~~participating community colleges and high schools from~~  
37 ~~institutions applying to the program and agreeing to meet the~~  
38 ~~requirements established for participation in the program.~~  
39 ~~Cal-PASS shall make these selections in accordance with~~  
40 ~~procedures and criteria it develops and adopts; however, in~~

1 ~~selecting community colleges and high schools for participation~~  
2 ~~in the program, Cal-PASS shall give priority to colleges and~~  
3 ~~schools from districts that are currently working with, or~~  
4 ~~utilizing, Cal-PASS data. At a minimum, the following~~  
5 ~~requirements shall be met by participating community colleges~~  
6 ~~and high schools:~~

7 ~~(1) Participating community colleges shall agree to designate~~  
8 ~~the appropriate faculty to participate in the regional and statewide~~  
9 ~~intersegmental standards council, and shall have the full~~  
10 ~~participation of their respective feeder high schools.~~

11 ~~(2) Participating high schools shall agree to designate the~~  
12 ~~appropriate teachers to participate in the regional and statewide~~  
13 ~~intersegmental standards council, and shall have the full~~  
14 ~~participation of their respective community colleges.~~

15 ~~(3) Participating community colleges shall agree to use entry~~  
16 ~~associate level English and mathematics standards adopted by the~~  
17 ~~statewide standards council as the basis on which to assess~~  
18 ~~community college readiness.~~

19 ~~(4) Participating community colleges shall agree to align entry~~  
20 ~~associate level English and mathematics courses to appropriate~~  
21 ~~high school English and mathematics curriculum. Participating~~  
22 ~~high schools and community colleges shall work together in~~  
23 ~~coordination with the California State University to develop and~~  
24 ~~implement appropriate grade 12 curriculum.~~

25 ~~(5) Participating high schools shall advise students of the~~  
26 ~~availability of courses being offered that are designed to increase~~  
27 ~~college-readiness skills.~~

28 ~~(6) Participating community colleges shall assign college~~  
29 ~~outreach advisors to participating feeder high schools to assist~~  
30 ~~students in making decisions that increase their college-readiness~~  
31 ~~skills and increase the likelihood of pursuing a postsecondary~~  
32 ~~education.~~

33 ~~(e) Cal-PASS shall establish and oversee six regional~~  
34 ~~standards councils, three to be focused on developing English~~  
35 ~~standards and three to be focused on developing mathematics~~  
36 ~~standards. The regional standards councils shall be composed of~~  
37 ~~high school, community college, and California State University~~  
38 ~~faculty. Each regional council shall develop recommendations~~  
39 ~~for community college standards for either entry associate level~~  
40 ~~English or entry associate level mathematics.~~

~~(d) Cal-PASS shall establish and oversee the work of a statewide standards council composed of two representatives from each regional standards council. In consultation with the Community College Academic Senate, the statewide standards council shall consider the recommendations of each regional standards council and adopt one common set of standards for entry collegiate level English and one common set of standards for entry collegiate level mathematics.~~

~~(e) Cal-PASS, through the work of the statewide standards council, shall accomplish both of the following:~~

~~(1) Adopt entry associate level English and entry associate level mathematics standards that shall go into effect on January 1, 2008.~~

~~(2) Use these standards to evaluate alignment with test items pursuant to Section 60641 and to determine whether augmentation of the California Standards Test (CST) is needed to meet Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program standards. The standards council shall adopt the CST or the augmented version of the CST as the common test pupils are required to take if they choose to participate in the Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program.~~

~~(f) Cal-PASS, through the work of the statewide standards council, regional standards councils, and participating institutions of higher education, shall facilitate the development and implementation of standards-based precollegiate level coursework. Upon the adoption of entry associate level English and mathematics standards, participating community colleges shall map their precollegiate level courses in English and mathematics to entry collegiate level courses.~~

~~(g) Participating community college districts shall work in coordination with campuses of the California State University to do all of the following:~~

~~(1) Collect and analyze the results of the CST or the augmented CST, or both, for the purpose of guiding the development of curriculum to improve student success in postsecondary education.~~

~~(2) Create professional development opportunities to train high school teachers in developing curriculum aligned to the adopted entry associate level standards.~~

1 ~~(3) Train elementary and secondary teachers to introduce~~  
2 ~~aligned curriculum in the precertification training programs.~~

3 ~~(4) Create a system for notifying pupils of their grade 11 test~~  
4 ~~results and apprising them of senior-year academic enrichment~~  
5 ~~opportunities. This system shall ensure all of the following:~~

6 ~~(A) Pupils receive notification regarding their community~~  
7 ~~college readiness for entry collegiate level English and~~  
8 ~~mathematics.~~

9 ~~(B) Pupils are informed that this information is only an~~  
10 ~~indicator of their college readiness and has no bearing on their~~  
11 ~~eligibility to attend community college.~~

12 ~~(C) Pupils are reassured that they are eligible to attend~~  
13 ~~community college.~~

14 ~~(h) To the extent that funding is provided specifically for this~~  
15 ~~purpose in the annual Budget Act or another statute, Cal-PASS~~  
16 ~~shall provide a stipend to each participating community college~~  
17 ~~and high school. It is the intent of the Legislature that this~~  
18 ~~stipend, in conjunction with base funding received by the~~  
19 ~~participating institutions, shall be adequate to cover all costs~~  
20 ~~incurred by those institutions.~~

21 *SEC. 5. Section 78213.8 is added to the Education Code, to*  
22 *read:*

23 *78213.8. (a) From funds provided in the annual Budget Act*  
24 *for this purpose, the Chancellor of the California Community*  
25 *Colleges shall contract with a community college district to*  
26 *evaluate the effectiveness of the Community College Early*  
27 *Assessment Pilot Program.*

28 *(b) No more than six months after the second administration of*  
29 *the assessment to grade 11 pupils under Section 78213.5, the*  
30 *district contracted with pursuant to subdivision (a) shall submit*  
31 *an interim evaluation report to the Legislature and the Governor.*  
32 *By June 30, 2011, the district shall submit a final evaluation*  
33 *report to the Legislature and the Governor.*

34 *(c) The Office of the Legislative Analyst shall review the final*  
35 *report submitted under subdivision (b), and, on or before August*  
36 *31, 2011, shall make recommendations regarding whether the*  
37 *Community College Early Assessment Pilot Program should be*  
38 *continued, modified, expanded, or discontinued.*